

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 30, 2003 (Paper No. 6). Claims 1 to 8 and 10 to 23 are in the application, of which Claims 1 to 8 and 10 to 19 have been allowed. Of the remaining claims, Claim 20 is the sole independent claim. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his indication that Claims 1 to 8 and 10 to 19 have been allowed.

Claim 9, which had been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent 6,256,111 (Rijavec), has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and without conceding the correctness of the rejection.

Claims 20 to 23 have been added in keeping with the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, and are believed to recite subject matter patentable over the art of record for at least the following reasons.

Specifically, the printing apparatus defined in independent Claim 20 comprises first holding means for holding calibration information received from a computer, and second holding means for holding calibration information generated in the printing apparatus. The calibration information respectively held by the first and second holding means are selectively used for correcting an input image.

Thus, among the features of independent Claim 20, it is calibration information received from a computer, and calibration information generated in a printing apparatus, that are selectively used for correcting an input image.

On the contrary, Rijavec discloses that a printer includes one or more arbitrary transfer functions to implement user- or system-selected gray scale printing characteristics, as described at lines 3 to 6 of column 6 thereof. As Applicant understands it, these transfer functions might be used for correcting an input image. However, as further seen by Applicant, such transfer functions do not correspond to calibration information received from a computer as well as calibration information generated in a printing apparatus. As a consequence, Rijavec does not disclose or suggest at least the feature that calibration information received from a computer, and calibration information generated in a printing apparatus, are selectively used for correcting an input image.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 20 recites subject matter allowable over the art of record.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
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Respectfully submitted,


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